

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 ERDA-05 CIAE-00 H-01 INR-07 L-03

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R 091016Z DEC 76

FM AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7493

INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUDAPEST 4111

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CSCE, PFOR, HU, US

SUBJECT: CSCE IMPLEMENTATION

REF: BUDAPEST 1716

1. ON DECEMBER 6, HUNGARIAN DESK OFFICER GERTH CALLED ON MRS. ISTVAN PAPP, DEPUTY OF MFA SECTION RESPONSIBLE FOR CSCE, AND ON ANDOR EGYED, DEPUTY CHIEF OF MFA CONSULAR DIVISION, IN FIRST INSTANCE ACCOMPANIED BY CHARGE AND IN SECOND BY EMBASSY CONSULAR OFFICER. CSCE IMPLEMENTATION DISCUSSED AT BOTH MEETINGS.

2. AT CONSULAR MEETING, IN COURSE OF LENGTHY CONVERSATION ON ONGOING COOPERATION IN CONSULAR AFFAIRS BETWEEN U.S. AND HUNGARY, GERTH MADE REFERENCE TO SMOOTH FUNCTIONING OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN TWO COUNTRIES TO ISSUE DIPLOMATIC AND OFFICIALS VISAS WITHIN 7-DAY PERIOD. EGYED SAID THAT THEORETICALLY GOH COULD ISSUE SUCH VISAS IN AS LITTLE AS 24 HOURS, IF U.S. RECIPROCATED. GERTH AND EMBASSY CONSULAR OFFICER ACCEPTED THIS OBSERVATION WITHOUT
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COMMENT, BUT WE TAKE IT TO BE INDICATIVE OF POSITIVE

ATTITUDE GOH TOWARDS FURTHER STEPS VISA FACILITATION. TWENTY-FOUR-HOUR VISA PROPOSAL COULD FIND ITS WAY IMPO LONG-EXPECTED LIST OF GOH PROPOSALS TO U.S. FOR BILATERAL MEASURES TO IMPLEMENT HELSINKI FINAL ACT.

3. DURING COVERSATION GERTH ALSO NOTED THAT IT USG OBJECTIVE UNDER HELSINKI ACT TO SEEK BROADENING OF CONTACTS AND THAT THIS SHOULD INCLUDE EXPANDING WORKING CONTACTS OF EMBASSY, INCLUDING MORE DIRECT ACCESS FOR EMBASSY'S CONSULAR SECTION TO GOH OFFICIALS WHO COULD BE HELPFUL TO U.S. CITIZENS IN DIFFICULTY. EMBASSY CONSULAR OFFICER COMMENTED DIRECT ACCESS TO SECTION OF POLICE RESPONSIBLE FOR DEALING WITH FOREIGNERS, AND WITH CUSTOMS OFFICIALS, WOULD BE HELPFUL. GERTH MENTIONED AIRPORT IMMIGRATION OFFICIALS. EGYED SAID PART OF MFA'S JOB WAS TO ACT AS GO-BETWEEN TO "FACILITATE" MATTERS BUT THAT CONCEPT OF MORE DIRECT ACCESS WAS ONE ABOUT WHICH GOH AND EMBASSY COULD AT LEAST TALK.

4. DURING LENGTHY CONVERSATION WITH MRS. PAPP, GERTH AND CHARGE ALSO RAISED ISSUE OF EXPANDING EMBASSY CONTACTS IN HUNGARY AS A POSSIBLE TOPIC OF CONVERSATION IN TALKS BETWEEN USG AND GOH ON CSCE IMPLEMENTATION, ADDING SUGGESTION THAT MEANS BE FOUND TO BYPASS MFA OFFICE OF PROTOCOL WITH RESPECT GREATER NUMBER OF OFFICIALS AND SOCIAL CONTACT. MRS. PAPP QUESTIONED WHETHER THIS WAS PRACTICAL BUT NEVERTHELESS APPEARED WILLING TO DISCUSS MATTER FURTHER AT FUTURE DATE. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTION, MRS. PAPP ACKNOWLEDGED THAT ORIGIN OF ANY HUNGARIAN CSCE PROPOSALS TO BE CONSIDERED IN BILATERAL COVERSATIONS WITH U.S. WOULD BE IN GEOGRAPHIC SECTION OF MFA, THAT IS, FROM DEPARTMENT V WHICH RESPONSIBLE FOR AMERICAN AFFAIRS. SHE IMPLIED HUNGARIAN PROPOSALS WERE NOW READY BUT WERE AWAITING A POLITICAL DECISION AS TO APPROPRIATE TIMING FOR THEIR PRESENTATION OF USG. MRS. PAPP FLATLY STATED GOH READY TO DO MORE UNDER RUBRIC OF FREEDOM OF INFORMATION. IN CONTRAST TO POSITION SHE TOOK LAST MAY (SEE REFTEL), SHE SEEMED TO ACCEPT THAT IT WAS NOT NECESSARY HAVE

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BILATERAL AGREEMENT TO IMPLEMENT FINAL ACT. CHARGE SUGGESTED THAT WHILE PROGRESS NOW BEING MADE ON HELSINKI ITEMS IN GOH-U.S. BILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS ON CULTURAL AGREEMENT AND THROUGH VISA FACILITATION PROPOSALS ALREADY AGREED UPON WITH MFA CONSULAR SECTION, BELIEVED TIME MIGHT SOON BE RIPE FOR OVERALL U.S.-GOH DISCUSSIONS ON HELSINKI IMPLEMENTATION AND PARTICULARLY FOR SEARCH FOR FURTHER SPECIFIC PROPOSALS ON WHICH BOTH COUNTRIES

COULD MOVE FORWARD. MRS. PAPP AGREED.
HARDY

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